

Vaccine Doses Administered Exercise 2010
August 11, 2010
1:00 pm CT

Coordinator: Welcome and thank you for standing by. At this time all participants are in a listen only mode. During the question and answer session, please press star 1 on your touch tone phone if you would like to ask a question.

Today's conference is being recorded, if you have any objections you may disconnect at this time. Now I will turn the meeting over to the DAX 2010 Project Leader Miss Michele Renshaw, Miss Renshaw you may begin.

Michele Renshaw: **[Title Slide]** Thank you, welcome everybody, I'm so glad to see so many participants here today. I'm in a room here at the CDC with several of my colleagues with the CRA project, so they'll be available to answer questions and provide clarification during the presentation if we need any.

[Slide 2] So with that, let's go ahead and get started talking about the DAX 2010 exercise. Our agenda for today is to do some background about the exercise.

I know we have a couple new Points of Contact, so that's part of the reason we're going to do some background. We'll also talk about a summary of what's going to happen within the exercise and we'll go into our next steps, what needs to be done and then we'll open it up for questions and answers.

[Slide 3] As many of you are aware the National Strategy for Pan Flu, the implementation plan calls for monitoring the appropriate use of vaccine during a pandemic in case the vaccine is scarce.

CRA has been used in the past for exercises in 2007 and 2008 to support the doses administered so the people can practice using it.

Both times the Project Areas tracked vaccine doses administered, they collected and aggregated the minimum data elements that were required and transmitted that weekly to the CDC.

As I'm sure many of you are aware we also used the CRA system during the H1N1 pandemic for doses administered for the first few weeks of that vaccine program.

[Slide 4] We have three different reporting options for CRA. We have Option 1 which is data exchange in which the participating Project Areas would enter the data within their own immunization information systems or its equivalent.

That data is transmitted electronically to the CRA system at the CDC. We also have the Option 2 which is direct Web entry in which you - the Project Areas actually go in and enter in the aggregate totals for the particular event or exercise.

Then there's the Option 3, which is individual level data entry for those Project Areas that don't have their own system and wish to keep track of the individuals to whom doses were administered.

[Slide 5] The 2007 exercise was considered a pilot, it was the first time that the CRA was used for doses administered and it demonstrated that Project Areas have the ability to collect and report the data to CDC.

It also showed that the CRA system has the technical capability to accept and aggregate the data that was sent. In 2008, the exercise was expanded and it tested the capabilities to actually do weekly reporting in a timely fashion.

We had a lot of increased volume, more clinics, more weeks and we also tracked priority groups. With the H1N1 doses administered event we demonstrated that Project Areas have the capability to collect and report aggregate data to the CDC during a real event.

Also indicated the CDC's capability for national reporting of aggregate doses administered data during the early on during the pandemic before the traditional surveillance systems were available.

[Slide 6] It gave public health officials a good understanding of the vaccine coverage. So why are we doing DAX 2010? We have several items listed but basically to continue to engage and involve the Project Areas in reporting and tracking the vaccine doses administered.

Also to assist the Project Areas in preparing for another pandemic if one were to occur so that we can all be proactive in maintaining a state of emergency preparedness and readiness.

Provide the opportunity for Project Areas to test new or improved system capabilities that they may have as well as to train any new personnel they may have.

[Slide 7] Also to continue to apply the strengths of the 2009 campaign and improve on any - on the limitations that were identified at that time.

To assist the Project Areas with transmitting the data in the ACIP to find general population priority groups as we did in 2008.

Also to disseminate the findings and best practices of vaccine doses administered via reports, presentations and publications.

[Slide 8] So for the 2010 exercise these are the main points, the details. All this was detailed in the one pager that was sent out with this meeting invitation.

So for this particular exercise we're asking every Project area that chooses to participate that they have a minimum of two clinics per week for two consecutive weeks.

Excuse me, to make a total of four clinics and there's no maximum number of clinics so if you want to report all clinics that's fine. We're not limiting you but we do want that minimum.

We've also have a set time period just to make it easier on everyone and we're going to start the reporting beginning October 25 for those two weeks, the next two weeks and then the last reporting date would be on Tuesday November 9.

Each Project Area is going to be responsible for submitting the aggregate doses administered counts for the reporting period that using that MMWR week, this is what has been done in the past.

The deadline is Tuesday at 11:59 your local time for the reporting jurisdiction.

Again we just want to highlight that this is a voluntary exercise, that's why we're using a shorter time frame and asking for less clinics to be reported.

[Slide 9] Okay, several people have asked about this, this slide demonstrates what the actual priority groups are. These are the ACIP assigned, general population priority groups.

I'm not going to read through each one of those, those were also included in the one page document that you all received.

[Slide 10] Okay, so for the next few slides are going to talk for each option choice, some specifics about each one. For Option 1 users using data exchange the actual specification will be available on the CRA Web page.

The specifications will be very similar to the 2008 specifications and we'll be using the pandemic influence of priority groups, the event specific valid value and data validation.

We're also going to ask everyone to do a full replacement of aggregate reports as they've done in the past. And also we have some sample messages that you can look at to see what your messages should look like.

For this particular exercise for the vaccine type codes we're going to recommend to use the generic vaccine type code of 128 which was used in the H1N1 event instead of using the three separate codes as in the past. Just to make it easier on everyone hopefully.

[Slide 11] Option 2 users should find this screen very familiar to report your aggregate counts again by each tier group and we'll of course have all the vaccine types put in there for the appropriate ones for the event, the exercise I mean.

[Slide 12] And then Option 3, here's the screen to enter in your patient information along with the counter measure information, again just real basic, very minimal fields that we're going to require for this exercise.

[Slide 13] Currently our schedule, we're having this Webinar today. The next two Webinars that we'll have will be in September on September 15, we're going to target that for the Option 1 users and talk about the different data exchange specifications and any specific questions they might have about that.

Of course if you have any questions prior to that feel free to give us a call because we understand you may need to make some changes in your systems and you need some lead time for that.

September 22 we're going to do the Webinar for the Option 2 and Option 3 users. On October 13 we're going to have another Webinar just to kind of refresh everything if anybody has any last minute questions, to go over again and we'll actually start the exercise on October 25.

[Slide 14] Okay, there is some funding available, I'm going to turn this over to my colleague Howard Hill who's with the National Center for Infectious and Respiratory Diseases to discuss the funding.

Howard Hill: Thank you Michele. Hey guys, I know you heard me talk about this for the last three years, but we are having another round of funding under Phase 1. And I hope that all of you that are eligible received the notice that we sent out on the listserv from our Point of Contacts to make you aware that there's \$750,000 available for awards, between \$50,000 and \$150,000 apiece.

That can be found on www.egrants.gov as you can see on the letter we sent and also on this slide that the number is IP0880303 Supplement 10.

We are having to do this late this year and we're glad to have the money for you because we were sitting in a quandary for about four extra months waiting to know if there was going to be pandemic flu money eligible for this type of work.

The receipt date for these applications which gives you about 19 days if you haven't already started or didn't know about this for you to prepare your application and to get it submitted.

The process is fairly friendly, I think most of you have probably used e-grants before, they will not accept a paper copy, it has to be done through the e-grants system.

We expect to be able to award anywhere from six to eight projects depending on the amount of money requested and the number of applications we receive.

If we get more applications from any of you that get reviewed and are approved and we don't have enough money, the awards will be made based on rank score starting with the best score all the way down to the lowest score and those on the lower end will be approved and can be funded.

And it gives us an opportunity to go and seek additional funds because we have good projects ready to use end of year money or possibly money in the first part of next year.

So an application now - even though the amount is small - is still a worthwhile effort for you to put in, because we can't go to Phase 2 which will have a different set of priorities than the Phase 1 has had until we've gotten everybody Phase 1 funding to support infrastructure such as hardware, software, you know changing your systems to get to the gold standard of Option 1.

You may use this money for training, you may use this money for a variety of things as outlined in the announcement. Not everybody is eligible. Individual states that have received funding in the past two rounds are ineligible for this because you've already received Phase 1 round one or two funding.

All others and you should know who you are because you haven't gotten any money are eligible to submit for this. If you have questions about your eligibility or questions about the kinds of things you would like to do with the project my locating information, contact information is going to come up on the last slide.

And feel free to contact me by phone or by email for me to be able to help you with your issues. And if you have any questions now when we're done with the slides please address them to me.

Michele Renshaw: **[Slide 15]** Thanks Howard. Okay, so the immediate next steps for everyone that we need to start doing is to please submit any updated Point of Contact information that you may have to the CRA help email address that you see on the screen there.

And whether you're going to participate and which option you're going to most likely go with. We'd like to have that by next Friday so we can begin planning and make sure everybody's you know going to be ready to go on time.

Another thing that needs to be done probably as soon as possible as those of you who have used CRA in the past know that SDN digital certificates expire every year.

So start getting those renewed if possible, better done early than late. So that's another thing to do as soon as possible and again if you are one of the Project Areas eligible for the funding, that deadline is coming up so you need to start working on that as well.

[Slide 16] If you need any kind of technical assistance, you can always go to the CRA Website which has not moved but again you know you can go back and all these slides will be available and be posted there as well as the recording from the Webinar.

So if you have colleagues that wish to review it or know of anyone who missed today they can come and get that information there.

We'll also have the reference guide such as the data exchange specification for Option 1, we're going to have checklists for this exercise as we've done in the past.

And also FAQ documents that will constantly be updated as we get questions coming in, we'll put up the questions and answers for everyone else so that everyone can benefit from that.

As always you can send an email to crahelp@cdc.gov and we have a team that monitors that mailbox and they'll be very responsive in getting back to you and getting answers for your questions.

We have up here listed the PHIN contact, they are actually the ones that can help you more directly with getting your SDN certificates and if you're interested in going to this - the CRA demonstration site in order to practice or get some extra training.

[Slide 17] So we have both their email address as well as the phone number there for you to contact them. Okay, and again this is our CRA - some main points of contact

for our CRA team, Barb Nichols is still the project leader for the entire CRA and we're now calling it CTS counter measure tracking system.

We're planning to expand CRA a little bit. I'm - there's my contact information, I'm leading the exercise this year so if you have any questions you can feel free to contact me.

Guy Faler is our main technical point of contact if you have specific technical questions, you would contact him for example for Option 1 users or anything dealing with computer related questions.

Howard Hill who you just heard from, here's his contact information if you have any questions about the funding announcement and Sarah Waite is our outreach liaison. You can reach her directly at her email address as well.

[Slide 18] I'd like to acknowledge all the help of everyone who's put this Webinar together and the slides and everything.

Of course we couldn't be anywhere without the Project Areas and all you folks out there actually doing this work and putting this stuff in so we appreciate all of your help and your time in coming to these Webinars and using our system.

Also all my colleagues here at the CDC and we have several contractors who work at the CDC who help us with all this. So I'd like to thank everyone for that today.

[Slide 19] That will open it up for questions. Moderator, if you could open it up for questions please?

Coordinator: Welcome - or I'm sorry, thank you. And we will now begin the question and answer session. If you would like to ask a question please press star 1. Please unmute your phone and record your name clearly when prompted.

Your name is required to open - to introduce your question. To withdraw your request please press star 2. One moment please for the first question.

Our first question comes from Jon Bergeson, Mr. Bergeson your line is open.

Jon Bergeson: Thank you. Good afternoon, thank you Michele. Have a question, listening to the call today not clear whether this is totally voluntary this year or whether it's still required at the Project area level.

Was looking at the BTA 10 extension guidance at least the way I read it there's no other mandatory data reporting required.

Howard Hill: John this is Howard Hill. That's correct and I just looked at the latest thing from Chris Kosmos about that. PHEPs are going into your extension for budget period '10 but as I read what was sent from your conference call on Friday what I gleaned from that, those exercises are still required for CRI and for other things.

Did you hear something different?

Jon Bergeson: I was not on the call Friday so if there's something that came out Friday I'm not aware of it. The only thing that I had seen, and I just checked with our grant coordinator for the PHEP, and all that she had seen was the information in the BP 10 extension guidance that talks specifically to no further data required for October 1 to December 31 of this year.

Howard Hill: Right, and again this exercise for us is purely voluntary to help the states that want to continue to keep sharp. And that's the purpose for us continuing to have an exercise this year.

But as far as your you know PHEP grant, all we were trying to hope is that the exercise participation with us would satisfy any requirements that you have for PHEP.

If you are looking at participating only as satisfying your PHEP requirements I wouldn't count on that.

Jon Bergeson: Well yeah, during the straight CRI exercises to meet the PHEP requirements you know CRI regional and state wide exercises we're certainly prepared to do that.

It's just trying to determine whether it's an absolute requirement that we also have to include the CRA.

Howard Hill: No, I can't answer that, that's still going to have to be answered by your PHEP consultant. We're not requiring it, we're just offering this exercise as we have in the past.

And in the past it has been accepted by your PHEP project people as an exercise completed. We have not yet got a clear answer on that.

Jon Bergeson: Okay, very good. Thank you Howard, thank you Michele.

Coordinator: Again please press star 1 if you have a question.

Michele Renshaw: We have a question on line on the screen from Mark. I'm not going to try to mangle your name, I think Howard could probably answer it. Do you need me to read it?

Mark Francesconi; the question is in previous years I heard that there was a template application for the grant application basically a fill in the blank type process.

Is there a template available for this year's application?

Howard Hill: If there has been in the past there will be this year because this has not changed. This is the same as we have done in year one in round one and round two.

The priorities have not changed, if you have been able to do that in the past you should be able to this time as well.

Now Mark, you're in Pennsylvania - no, where are you? Rhode Island. I'm sorry Mark, little confused here. Yeah you guys are eligible and yes you would be able to apply and you should be able to see on www.egrants.gov under that announcement number all the help you need in terms of doing it.

If you don't you can certainly contact me and I'll give you any assistance I can on the side.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from Miss Linda Joseph, Miss Joseph your line is open.

Linda Joseph: Hi Michele.

Michele Renshaw: Hi Linda.

Linda Joseph: I was just wondering if I recall last year Option 3 users did not require SDN digital certificates. Is that still valid this year?

Michele Renshaw: No, that is not. We had a special arrangement because of the pandemic.

Linda Joseph: Right okay.

Michele Renshaw: So this year, and because this is completely voluntary, everyone's going to be required to have a SDN digital certificate. The previous two years everyone had to have a SDN digital certificate for the previous two exercises in 2007 and '08.

So yes everyone will be required to have a SDN digital certificate again.

Linda Joseph: Okay, thank you.

Coordinator: We are showing no further questions at this time, if you do have a question please press star 1.

Michele Renshaw: But we had a question, someone asked to see the technical assistance page with the URL and displayed to everybody so you can write them down.

You all are awfully quite. You all probably know what to do.

Howard Hill: Could I get just a response from those of you who are on the line here, sort of an indication of who is thinking about applying for the funding? I don't know how we could do that, is there a way to send it in on an email?

Send it through the Q&A and just send in that your state's name. That would help us in planning for the number of reviewers we need to put together.

Yeah, just indicate your state's name under Q&A on your screen if you're thinking about applying for the funding and you don't have to say anything other than that.

Michele Renshaw: We're getting there.

Howard Hill: Thanks, we're seeing them. Thank you. You got one from Los Angeles.

Michele Renshaw: Oh the grant - we have another question from Mark Francesconi again, the grant address is www.egrants.gov.

And the number you would use is the one that's in the slide if you guys want to write it down. Be sure to double check this because I am a little bit dyslexic with numbers.

You all can correct me as I'm doing it, but CDC-R as in Roger, F as in Frank A as in alpha dash I as in indigo, P as in papa, 08-80303 S-U-P-P as in supplement and then the number 10.

We're getting several things from you all so Howard your request so thank you for replying. Do we have any further questions?

Coordinator: I'm showing no further questions at this time.

Howard Hill: New York City is not eligible. New Jersey will apply, great.

Coordinator: I am showing our next question coming from Zina Kleyman, Miss Kleyman your line is open.

Zina Kleyman: I'm sorry, can you repeat please the grant number because New Jersey was planning to apply.

Michele Renshaw: It will be available on the CRA Website and I believe that there was an email sent out as well with the grant number. Yeah, I'll do it again, it's CDC-RFA-IP08-80303SUPP as in Supplement 10.

Howard Hill: Okay, and there's a correction too on the Website for the electronic - sorry folks. It's www.grants.gov, not e-grants, grants.gov not e-grants. So sorry about that.

Zina Kleyman: Thank you very much.

Michele Renshaw: You're welcome. We'll put that up, we may - actually we'll probably modify this particular slide when it gets posted to the CRA Website to have the correct Web address on there as well.

That should be posted by tomorrow close of business.

Coordinator: Again you may press star 1 to ask a question.

Michele Renshaw: Okay everyone, well I don't want to keep you any longer than we need to so again if you could go back to the next steps slide just to go over that one more time.

So please submit if you have any updated Point of Contact information and whether or not you're going to participate, we appreciate that, to crahelp@cdc.gov.

If you are planning to participate please let us know and let us know which option you plan to use. Again, if you are participating please go and apply to renew your SDN certificate and again you can either contact the PHIN help desk or CRA help can also help you with that, at least getting you the initial place to go and apply.

If you are applying for the funding you need to get that in by the end of the month. So hope to hear from a lot of you. We're looking forward to having some good participation just to keep everybody current.

As we said those of you that may have some new immunization registries might be good just to make sure that everything works with CRA by participating in this exercise.

So thank you again for all of your time and we hope to be talking to you again very soon. Thank you.

Coordinator: Thank you, you may disconnect at this time.

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